

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

November 7, 2003

Applicant(s): Edgardo ALVAREZ, et al

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PERFORMING IRRIGATED NOSE AND
THROAT SURGERY

Serial No.: 10/616 654 Group: 3732

Confirmation No.: 9966

Filed: July 10, 2003 Examiner: Unknown

International Application No.: N/A

International Filing Date: N/A

Atty. Docket No.: S*L 264A

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.56 and 1.97, the Applicants take this opportunity to call to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office documents that may be material to the prosecution of this application. The cited documents are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and enclosed with this paper.

This paper is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first substantive Office Action for this application. It is submitted the above is a good reason why the cited documents should now be considered without payment of any supplemental fees.

At this time the Applicants call to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the documents incorporated by reference into the present application.

At this time, Applicants also call to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office the additional document cited

by the European Patent Office in its review of the corresponding Patent Cooperation Treaty application. The International Search Report for the corresponding PCT application mailed October 7, 2003, is also enclosed.

Further commentary regarding the cited documents is not believed necessary at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

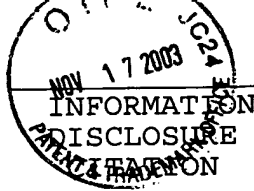
David S. Goldenberg
David S. Goldenberg

DSG\pcq

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|--------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| FLYNN, THIEL, BOUTELL | Dale H. Thiel | Reg. No. 24 323 |
| & TANIS, P.C. | David G. Boutell | Reg. No. 25 072 |
| 2026 Rambling Road | Ronald J. Tanis | Reg. No. 22 724 |
| Kalamazoo, MI 49008-1631 | Terryence F. Chapman | Reg. No. 32 549 |
| Phone: (269) 381-1156 | Mark L. Maki | Reg. No. 36 589 |
| Fax: (269) 381-5465 | David S. Goldenberg | Reg. No. 31 257 |
| | Sidney B. Williams, Jr. | Reg. No. 24 949 |
| | Liane L. Churney | Reg. No. 40 694 |
| | Brian R. Tumm | Reg. No. 36 328 |
| | Robert J. Sayfie | Reg. No. 37 714 |

Enc: Form PTO-1449 with all documents listed thereon
Acknowledgement Postal Card

110.0703



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Ser.No. : 10/616 654 Filed : July 10, 2003
Conf. No.: 9966 Atty.Ref.: S*L 264A
Group : 3732

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initial* | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Sub Class | Filing Date |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------|---------------|-------|--------------|----------------|
| AA | 6 332 891 | Dec 2001 | Himes | | | |
| AB | 6 342 061 | Jan 2002 | Kauker, et al | | | |
| AC | 6 152 941 | Nov 2000 | Himes, et al | | | |
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| AG | | | | | | |
| AH | | | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Document Number | Date | Country | Class | Sub Class | Translation Yes No |
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| AP | | | | | |

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pages, Etc.)

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| AR | PCT App. No. PCT/US03/21657 International Search Report, October 2003 |
| AS | U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/302 148, filed April 29, 1999 |
| AT | U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/251 646, filed September 21, 2002 |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.